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AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
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SUBJECT: AF PRESS GUIDANCE - NOVEMBER 4, 1994

NOVEMBER 7, 1994

PRESS GUIDANCE (SUMMARY):

1. STATEMENT: ANGOLA: THE HUAMBO OFFENSIVE

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2. ANGOLA: UPDATE ON HUAMBO OFFENSIVE
3. SOMALIA: EXTENSION OF UNOSOM MANDATE, U.S. ASSISTANCE TO WITHDRAWAL
4. RWANDA: REFUGEE CAMPS, WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL, RELIEF

1. STATEMENT: ANGOLA - THE HUAMBO OFFENSIVE

STATEMENT BY CHRISTINE SHELLY, ACTING SPOKESMAN
"ANGOLA: THE HUAMBO OFFENSIVE"

-- THE UNITED STATES CONDEMNS THE BOMBARDMENT OF HUAMBO BY THE ARMED FORCES OF THE ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT. WE ARE DEEPLY

CONCERNED THAT THIS NEEDLESS OFFENSIVE WILL COST COUNTLESS CIVILIAN LIVES AND WILL JEOPARDIZE THE PROMISE OF THE LUSAKA PROTOCOL, INITIALED OCTOBER 31. WE ARE CLOSELY MONITORING THE WELFARE OF THE 55 HUMANITARIAN RELIEF WORKERS STRANDED IN HUAMBO AND HOLD THE GOVERNMENT PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAFETY OF THESE INTERNATIONAL WORKERS. WE CALL UPON BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND UNITA TO DO THEIR UTMOST TO ENSURE THE SAFE EVACUATION

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OF THOSE WHO WISH TO LEAVE.

-- DESPITE THE PRESSURE PUT ON THE PEACE PROCESS BY THE HUAMBO OFFENSIVE, THE LUSAKA PROTOCOL, REACHED AFTER A YEAR OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS, OFFERS THE BEST HOPE FOR A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE IN ANGOLA. WE CALL UPON BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND UNITA TO FULFILL THEIR OBLIGATIONS TO BEGIN MILITARY NEGOTIATIONS IN LUSAKA ON NOVEMBER 10 AND TO SIGN THE LUSAKA PROTOCOL ON NOVEMBER 15. WE CALL UPON BOTH PARTIES, ESPECIALLY THE GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA, TO IMMEDIATELY CEASE HOSTILITIES.

2. AF PRESS GUIDANCE: ANGOLA - THE HUAMBO OFFENSIVE

Q: HOW WILL THE FIGHTING EFFECT THE PEACE PROCESS?

A: -- THE GOVERNMENT'S OFFENSIVE AGAINST HUAMBO CLEARLY

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JEOPARDIZES THE PROMISE OF THE LUSAKA PROTOCOL, WHICH WAS INITIALED OCTOBER 31 AFTER A YEAR OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

-- THE PROTOCOL REMAINS THE BEST HOPE FOR A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE IN ANGOLA. WE CONTINUE TO URGE THE GOVERNMENT IN THE STRONGEST TERMS TO IMMEDIATELY CEASE HOSTILITIES.

-- WE HAVE ALSO CALLED UPON BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND UNITA TO FULFILL THEIR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE PROTOCOL TO BEGIN MILITARY TALKS ON NOVEMBER 10 AND SIGN THE PROTOCOL ON NOVEMBER 15. NUMEROUS AFRICAN LEADERS AND THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL HAVE ECHOED THESE SAME APPEALS.

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Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY NEW INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FIGHTING IN HUAMBO?

A: -- AS OF NOON, NOVEMBER 7, THE CITY OF HUAMBO WAS REPORTEDLY QUIET ALTHOUGH MILITARY OPERATIONS CONTINUE OUTSIDE OF THE CITY. EFFORTS ARE STILL UNDERWAY TO ARRANGE THE EVACUATION OF MOST OF THE 55 INTERNATIONAL RELIEF WORKERS - INCLUDING ONE AMERICAN - IN HUAMBO.

Q: WHAT IS THE AMERICAN PRESENCE IN ANGOLA?

A: -- AMBASSADOR EDMUND DE JARNETTE, A CAREER FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER, HEADS OUR FOURTEEN PERSON EMBASSY IN LUANDA.

-- AN ESTIMATED 500 PRIVATE AMERICAN CITIZENS RESIDE IN ANGOLA - MOST WORKING IN THE PETROLEUM SECTOR OR WITH INTERNATIONAL RELIEF AGENCIES.

3. IO PRESS GUIDANCE: SOMALIA - UNOSOM MANDATE; BROWN AND ROOT

Q: WHAT ARE THE ESSENTIAL COMPONENTS OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION PASSED FRIDAY RENEWING UNOSOM'S MANDATE IN SOMALIA?

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A: -- UNOSOM'S MANDATE WAS EXTENDED FOR ONE FINAL PERIOD TO MARCH 31, 1995.

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-- THE RESOLUTION CALLS FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF ALL UNOSOM MILITARY FORCES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, OVER THE NEXT 60 - 120 DAYS.

-- THE RESOLUTION ALSO AUTHORIZES THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND A SMALL POLITICAL STAFF TO REMAIN IN THE REGION TO ASSIST THE SOMALI FACTIONS IN ACHIEVING NATIONAL RECONCILIATION DURING THE MANDATE EXTENSION AND BEYOND.

Q: (IF ASKED): WILL U.S. TROOPS ASSIST IN THE WITHDRAWAL?

A: -- THE U.N. HAS REQUESTED WITHDRAWAL ASSISTANCE FROM SEVERAL COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE UNITED STATES. THE U.N.'S REQUEST IS BEING REVIEWED. WE EXPECT A DECISION SOON.

Q: WHAT IS THE STORY REGARDING THE RECENT FIRING OF EMPLOYEES BY BROWN AND ROOT AND THE ENSUING RIOTS AND VIOLENCE?

A: -- AT THIS TIME, WE DO NOT HAVE COMPLETE DETAILS ON THIS INCIDENT. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT BROWN AND ROOT RECENTLY DISMISSED NINETY-ONE (91) LOCAL SOMALI EMPLOYEES IN CONJUNCTION WITH UNOSOM'S PLANS TO TERMINATE

ITS MILITARY FUNCTIONS AND BEGIN WITHDRAWAL OPERATIONS. (BROWN AND ROOT CURRENTLY PROVIDES LOGISTICAL SUPPORT TO UNOSOM FORCES AND CIVILIAN OPERATIONS).

-- WE WOULD REFER YOU TO THE U.N. FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

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4. RWANDA: SECURITY IN CAMPS, WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL,
UNAMIR, U.S. ASSISTANCE, ETC.

(NOTE: MUCH OF THIS GUIDANCE IS REPEATED OR REVISED FROM
THE GUIDANCE RELATED TO U/S WIRTH'S TRIP TO THE UN IN NEW
YORK, AS FORWARDED TO POSTS ON 11/4/94)

Q: WHAT ARE WE DOING ABOUT THE DETERIORATING SECURITY
SITUATION IN THE CAMPS AND RELIEF AGENCIES' CONCERNS?

A. -- THIS IS A SOURCE OF DEEP CONCERN TO THE UNITED
STATES AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. THE USG, IN
CONSULTATION WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, HAS BEEN
ACTIVELY ENGAGED WITH THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL, UN
SECRETARIAT, AND UNHCR IN WORKING ON WAYS TO ADDRESS THIS
ISSUE.

-- UNDER SECRETARY TIM WIRTH WAS IN NEW YORK NOVEMBER 4
TO MEET WITH UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES
(UNHCR) MRS. OGATA AND UN UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL KOFI
ANNAN FOR PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS ABOUT THIS SERIOUS
SITUATION.

-- THE U.S. IS DEEPLY ENGAGED IN MANY EFFORTS TO ADDRESS
THE COMPLEX ISSUE OF RWANDA, INCLUDING ASPECTS DEALING
WITH HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
GENOCIDE TRIBUNAL.

-- SPECIFIC MEANS OF RESOLVING THIS MENACE TO REGIONAL
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STABILITY HAVE BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION WITHIN THE USG FOR
SOME TIME.

-- WE SUPPORTED THE DECISION OF THE UN TO DISPATCH A TEAM

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TO THE REGION TO STUDY THE PROBLEM. THEY HAVE NOW REPORTED BACK WITH THEIR FINDINGS, AND THE SECRETARIAT IS PREPARING A REPORT WITH POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS. THAT IS WHY WE SENT A TEAM UP TO NEW YORK LAST WEEK TO DISCUSS THE MATTER.

-- COPING WITH THIS PROBLEM BY INCREASING THE NUMBER OF TROOPS NOW DEPLOYED UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE

MISSION IN RWANDA (UNAMIR) IS JUST ONE OF THE SEVERAL OPTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION.

-- WE AWAIT THE IMMINENT RELEASE OF THE SECRETARIAT'S REPORT, SO THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL CAN DETERMINE AN APPROPRIATE COURSE OF ACTION.

-- WE WILL BE MEETING WITH THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOS) WORKING IN THE CAMPS TO REPORT ON THE RESULTS OF OUR DISCUSSION WITH THE UN AND UNHCR EARLY NEXT WEEK.

-- WE ARE ALSO WORKING TOWARDS THE CREATION OF CONDITIONS IN RWANDA THAT WILL PROMOTE REFUGEE RETURN, INTERNAL RECOVERY, AND NATIONAL RECONCILIATION. FOR EXAMPLE:

(A) WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS
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-- THE U.S. HAS BEEN IN THE FOREFRONT OF PRESSING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL ON RWANDAN WAR CRIMES. THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL IS IN THE PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING AN INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL TO TRY THOSE WHO PLANNED AND COMMITTED GENOCIDE AND OTHER GRAVE VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW IN RWANDA.

-- RWANDANS RESPONSIBLE FOR GENOCIDE KILLINGS AND OTHER CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY MUST BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE.

-- WE HAVE SUPPLIED INFORMATION TO THE COMMISSION OF

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EXPERTS, AND HAVE SENT INVESTIGATORS TO RWANDA TO SUPPORT THE INVESTIGATION EFFORT.

-- THE UN HAS SENT HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS INTO RWANDA. WE ARE COMMITTED TO PROVIDING DOLLARS 750,000 THROUGH USAID TO THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS CENTER FOR THIS EFFORT.

(B) SUPPORT FOR UNAMIR

-- WE SUPPORTED EXPANSION OF UNAMIR AND HAVE PROVIDED 50 ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT, AS WELL AS AIR LIFT AND OTHER LOGISTICAL SUPPORT, TO EXPEDITE DEPLOYMENT OF THE PEACEKEEPING FORCE.

(C) WORLD BANK FUNDING

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-- TO HELP FREE UP WORLD BANK FUNDING FOR THE NEW GOVERNMENT, WE HAVE OFFERED TO CONTRIBUTE DOLLARS 2.5 MILLION TO HELP PAY OFF RWANDA'S WORLD BANK ARREARS AND HAVE ENCOURAGED OTHER DONORS TO DO SO AS WELL.

(D) USG EFFORTS TO HELP RWANDA

Q. WHAT ELSE HAVE WE DONE TO HELP RWANDA?

A. -- THE U.S HAS BEEN WORKING WITH AFRICAN NATIONS TO FIND A REGIONAL SOLUTION. (10 DAYS AGO), DEPUTY SECRETARY TALBOTT VISITED SEVERAL AFRICAN NATIONS TO DISCUSS HOW AFRICAN PEACEKEEPING FORCES COULD BEST BE USED TO DEAL WITH CRISES SUCH AS THE ONE IN RWANDA.

-- PRESIDENT BIZIMUNGU (BIH-ZEE-MUHN-GOO) MET IN WASHINGTON OCTOBER 4-5 WITH NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR LAKE, DEPUTY SECRETARY TALBOTT, UNDER SECRETARY WIRTH, AND ASSISTANT SECRETARIES BENNETT AND SHATTUCK.

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-- PROMINENT U.S. OFFICIALS, AND A SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL MISSION, HAVE VISITED THE REGION, AND WE CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN REGULAR AND FREQUENT DIALOGUE WITH THE NEW GOVERNMENT.

-- U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN STEMMING THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN RWANDA AND REFUGEE CAMPS IN ZAIRE AND TANZANIA.

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-- WE SENT APPROXIMATELY 2,000 TROOPS TO THE REGION TO ENSURE THE DELIVERY OF SUPPLIES AND TO SET UP ADEQUATE WATER SYSTEMS. OUR TROOPS FULFILLED THEIR MISSION AND COMPLETED THEIR DRAWDOWN AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER. HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY HANDED OVER TO RELIEF AGENCIES.

-- WE HAVE CONTRIBUTED OVER DOLLARS 230 MILLION IN ASSISTANCE IN RWANDA, BURUNDI AND NEIGHBORING STATES SINCE THE CURRENT CRISIS BEGAN APRIL 6.

-- IN ADDITION, DOD MADE AN ESTIMATED DOLLARS 100 MILLION IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION.

(E) ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES

Q. WHAT IS THE OVERALL SITUATION ON RELIEF REACHING THE REFUGEES? WHAT ASSISTANCE IS THE U.S. PROVIDING?

A. -- UNHCR, THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM (WFP) AND A LARGE NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL NGO'S CONTINUE TO PROVIDE RELIEF TO THE REFUGEE CAMPS IN THE COUNTRIES SURROUNDING RWANDA.

-- BREAKS IN THE FOOD PIPELINE HAVE RESULTED IN PERIODIC CUTBACKS IN RATIONS IN ALL THE REFUGEE CAMPS. WFP IS ATTEMPTING TO GET SUFFICIENT FOOD INTO THE REGION TO MEET THE NEEDS OF ALL THE REFUGEES AS WELL AS THE DISPLACED INSIDE RWANDA.

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-- OVERALL, DESPITE THE SECURITY PROBLEMS IN ZAIRE, THE REPORTED MORTALITY RATES IN MOST OF THE CAMPS THERE INDICATE THAT WATER, SANITATION, AND FOOD PROBLEMS ARE MORE OR LESS UNDER CONTROL.

-- THE SITUATION IN TANZANIA, HOWEVER, IS OF SERIOUS CONCERN DUE TO OVERCROWDING IN THE REFUGEE CAMPS, INADEQUATE SUPPLIES, AND SHORTAGES OF SHELTER MATERIALS.

-- TO ASSIST WITH THE CONTINUED AND URGENT ASSISTANCE NEEDS, THE PRESIDENT RECENTLY AUTHORIZED THE USE OF UP TO AN ADDITIONAL DOLLARS 30 MILLION FROM THE U.S. EMERGENCY REFUGEE AND MIGRATION ASSISTANCE FUND FOR THE RWANDAN EMERGENCY.

-- THIS FUNDING WILL BE CONTRIBUTED TO UNHCR, THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM, AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO RWANDAN REFUGEES.

-- IT IS HOPED THAT THIS ADDITIONAL FUNDING WILL IMPROVE THE DELIVERY OF ASSISTANCE TO THE REFUGEES.

(F) MORE ON THE REFUGEE CAMPS

Q. WHATARE THE PROBLEMS IN THE CAMPS?

A. -- THE CONTINUED PRESENCE IN THE REFUGEE CAMPS IN ZAIRE OF FORMER RWANDAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, MILITARY UNITS, AND MILITIA GROUPS, MANY OF WHOM ARE ARMED, HAS SERIOUSLY DISRUPTED HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN THE
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CAMPS AROUND GOMA, ZAIRE.

-- THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE HAS APPEALED TO THE UNITED NATIONS FOR HELP IN CONTROLLING THESE ELEMENTS.

-- A UNITED NATIONS TEAM HAS RECENTLY VISITED THE AREA TO LOOK INTO THE SITUATION AND HAS SUBMITTED ITS REPORT TO THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL.

Q. COULD YOU PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON REFUGEE NUMBERS AND WHEREABOUTS?

A. -- OVER 2 MILLION RWANDAN REFUGEES REMAIN IN SURROUNDING COUNTRIES:

--1,200,000 IN ZAIRE
-- 270,000 IN BURUNDI
-- 552,000 IN TANZANIA
-- 10,000 IN UGANDA

Q. ARE ANY RETURNING TO RWANDA?

A. -- UNHCR REPORTS THAT THE NUMBER OF REFUGEES RETURNING TO RWANDA FROM GOMA, ZAIRE, ROSE TO AN AVERAGE OF 2,000 PERSONS PER DAY DURING THE SECOND WEEK OF OCTOBER. REFUGEES CONTINUE TO LEAVE GOMA AT NIGHT OUT OF FEAR OF BEING KILLED BY CAMP LEADERS OR MILITIA.

-- WHILE UNHCR IS NOT ACTIVELY PROMOTING REPATRIATION AT THIS TIME BECAUSE OF EVIDENCE OF AREAS OF INSECURITY IN RWANDA, IT IS ASSISTING THOSE REFUGEES WHO CHOOSE TO
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RETURN HOME SPONTANEOUSLY.

MINIMIZE CONSIDERED TALBOTT

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